



# FMMI in the NEWS

Financial Management Modernization Initiative

Issue #5 - April 2009



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## FMMI in the News Overview

*FMMI in the News* serves as a central source of information to Agency and Staff Office leadership and points of contact (POCs) on all things related to the Financial Management Modernization Initiative (FMMI).

While the current focus of the newsletter is to provide information to the Agency and Staff Office leadership and POCs, please share this newsletter with other interested parties in your Agency as appropriate.

To ensure *FMMI in the News* is relevant to you and your Agency or Staff Office, please let us know what topics you would like to hear by sending feedback, comments and suggestions to the FMMI Mailbox at [FMMI@usda.gov](mailto:FMMI@usda.gov).

## A Word from our Technical IPT Lead – Steven Eagle

We are half way through the Build Phase of Deployment 1 of FMMI. The Technical IPT team is hard at work and growing as we work to finish this critical phase of the project. The Technical team is responsible for Environments, Security, Integration, FMMI Portal and Reports, Interfaces, Conversions, Extensions, Forms, Workflow (RICEFW) objects for the FMMI system.

A major highlight for the Technical IPT was the naming of the National Finance Center (NFC) to be the hosting provider for FMMI. We are meeting with NFC regularly to map out the environments to support FMMI and ensure a smooth transition before Go-Live.

A few of the activities we've been working on include:

- Coordinating with NFC in constructing FMMI Hosting Environments (Development, Test, Training, and Sandbox)
- Finalizing Technical Designs for Reports, Interfaces, Conversion, Extensions, Forms and Workflows
- Laying the groundwork with our interface partners in establishing interfaces with the various USDA financial systems
- Working with Deployment Agencies and Staff Offices in data cleansing and data conversion
- Participating in Role Mapping discussions
- Developing roles in SAP ECC and SAP Portal
- Designing a security design and implementation plan
- Building eAuthentication integration with the Portal
- Developing the Assembly Test Plan and the Mock Conversion Plan



Steven Eagle,  
FMMI Technical IPT

The Technical IPT is also participating and supporting the Data Cleansing efforts. The cleaner and more accurate the data going into the system the quicker and more efficient the data conversion process will be. We have a series of mock conversions to test and prepare subsets of data well before Go-Live so we can see how long the data takes to process and to check the quality of the data once converted.

This is an exciting time for the Technical IPT team. I appreciate their hard work and the support we've gotten from the Agencies and Staff Offices.

~The Eagle

## FMMI and Candidate Systems

One of the objectives of FMMI is to conduct an analysis of the existing financial and program systems that may be replaced by or interfaced with the FMMI system, including Agency-specific interfaces. Systems being considered for replacement or interface are also known as *Candidate Systems*. Replacement means the existing financial and program system, or candidate system, will be subsumed by FMMI. Interfacing means the candidate system will remain, working with the new FMMI system.

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*Analysis of Candidate Systems has been a joint effort of the FMMI project team working together with Agency stakeholders and subject matter experts (SMEs).*

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### How are Candidate Systems evaluated?

Analysis of Candidate Systems has been a joint effort of the FMMI project team working together with Agency stakeholders and subject matter experts (SMEs). Their ongoing analysis and gathering of Agency-specific requirements is determining how the current system process will operate in conjunction with the new FMMI system. Together they are reviewing Candidate Systems selected and confirming next steps on a system by system basis. This effort will provide a final determination of which systems will be subsumed by or interfaced with FMMI.

### Current Systems Under Development to be Interfaced

Currently, the Deployment 1 Department-wide systems identified to be interfaced with FMMI are:

- ACRWS – interface for cash reconciliation
- ABCO – interface for employee related transactions
- CAPS – interface for payroll related processing
- CCR – interface for registered vendor master data
- CPAIS – interface for property accounting
- FSDW – interface for consolidated financial statements
- FMS Treasury/GOALS – interface for IPAC and SPS payment processing
- GovTrip – interface for Government travel transactions
- IAS – interface for non-direct entry procurement processing
- NEMP – interface for employee record updates
- PACS – interface for payroll processing
- Smart Pay 2 – interface for fleet/purchase card processing
- TELE/UTVN – interface for telephone and utility payments
- TRVL – interface for relocation and local travel transactions
- US Bank Lockbox – interface for lockbox transactions
- WebTA – interface for time & attendance accounting code validation

*Please note that additional systems are presented to the FMMI Program Change Control Board (PCCB) on a regular basis, so the list of Deployment 1 system interfaces noted above is at this point in time.*

### What if I have a suggestion for a Candidate System?

Do you know of other candidate systems that should be considered for analysis? If so, please send a request for the system(s) to be reviewed to [FMMI@usda.gov](mailto:FMMI@usda.gov). Please ensure **Candidate Systems** appears in the subject line. The FMMI team will evaluate the request and determine the next steps.

### Data Cleansing Update

Data cleansing is the process of detecting and correcting corrupt or inaccurate records to promote data quality. If the quality of data converted to FMFI is poor, then user trust of the FMFI application will be negatively impacted. This could result in costly, post go-live activities to implement new manual and automated business processes to compensate for the poor quality of conversion data.

To that end, the FMFI Data Cleansing Team and Deployment 1 Agencies and Staff Offices are hard at work cleansing their data in preparation for the mock conversions and, ultimately, Go-Live.

- The Data Cleansing/Conversion team is conducting weekly meetings with the Agencies and Staff Offices to discuss the process that is to be employed for cleanup and address any issues or concerns with the various cleansing objects.
- Several data marts and queries have been built to facilitate the process of data cleansing for the conversion of Deployment 1 Agencies and Staff Offices into FMFI. The data marts have been built for Purchase Orders (open obligations excluding travel), travel authorizations and accounts receivable. BRIO queries have been developed for down payments (advances from others), travel advances and prepayments (advances to others).
- The largest cleansing object that the Agencies and Staff Offices have to address is Purchase Orders. Some Agencies have increased or are in the process of increasing their resources to address this cleansing task.
- The data mart for Accounts Payable is in quality assurance testing. Upon completion the Agencies and Staff Offices will be able to access the data mart to run their queries.
- Agencies and Staff Offices have been provided with Suspense File (SUSF) of documents that are in held, pending or reject status to take appropriate action in clearing these open items. Items reported on SUSF that are older than 60 days have been reduced by 57%.
- Agencies and Staff Offices were provided with a worksheet to focus on the manual documents processed in FFIS over the years. They are working toward removing/reversing those entries where appropriate.
- Agencies and Staff Offices are aggressively working toward cleansing their data prior to conversion into FMFI. Keep up the momentum!

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*The Data Cleansing Team is conducting weekly meetings with the Agencies to discuss the process that is to be employed for cleanup and address any issues or concerns with the various cleansing objects.*

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### FMFI at 2009 FMT Conference

FMFI is on the agenda at the 2009 Financial Management Training (FMT) May 6-8, 2009 in Washington, DC. FMFI leadership will present a two hour FMFI Overview and demonstration of the FMFI system at the general session on May 6. Team members will also be presenting three breakout sessions:

- FMFI Deployment 1 - What's Left to be Done
- FMFI Deployment 2 - Getting Ready for FMFI Implementation
- FMFI Accounting Data Structure

In addition to the presentation and breakout sessions, FMFI core team members will staff a booth where conference attendees can ask questions about FMFI, see demos of the system, and look at the FMFI website.

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## Spotlight on Accounts Receivable

The Accounts Receivable (AR) process is how USDA will record, manage, and collect receivables due from customers. It includes all activities related to documenting and collecting money due for goods or services provided by the USDA to a customer. This module is tightly integrated with the Sales and Distribution (SD) module to enter and process customer master data, shipping, billing, and receivables.

FMMI users will have the ability to process and manage direct receivables as well as agreement-based receivables. Agreement-based receivables can be created with an advance or without an advance, and can capture billable costs in a variety of ways, including reimbursements for purchases, fixed pricing, and overhead charges.

The FMMI system will also bring greater flexibility with regards to debt management. FMMI users will have the capability to manage interest and penalty fees and installment plans for individual receivables, as well as for each customer. The FMMI system will offer dynamic dunning capabilities which allow agencies to manage delinquent receivables proactively each month. FMMI users will also have the ability to do automatic write-offs.

## Key Messages for Your Agency/Staff Office

*As leadership or the FMMI Point of Contact (POC) for your Agency/Staff Office, we rely on you to take back key messages to the rest of your organization about FMMI. Key points to relay to your organizations:*

- FMMI is conducting an analysis of the existing financial and program systems that may be replaced by or interfaced with the FMMI system, including Agency-specific interfaces.
- The Data Cleansing team is conducting weekly meetings with the Agencies and Staff Offices to discuss the process that is to be employed for cleanup and address any issues or concerns with the various cleansing objects.
- FMMI is presenting at the 2009 Financial Management Training (FMT) May 6-8, 2009 in Washington, DC.
- The FMMI system will bring greater flexibility with regards to debt management. FMMI users will have the capability to manage interest and penalty fees and installment plans for individual receivables, as well as for each customer. The FMMI system will offer dynamic dunning capabilities which allow agencies to manage delinquent receivables proactively each month. FMMI users will also have the ability to do automatic write-offs.

## FMMI Calendar

**Deployment 1 Agencies Finalize**

**User Roles**

**Conversion Mock 0**

**Financial Management Training**

**Testing Readiness Review**

**April 22**

**April 27-May 8**

**May 6-8**

**End of May**

## Questions or Comments?

If you have questions about the FMMI project or information in this newsletter, please contact [FMMI@usda.gov](mailto:FMMI@usda.gov) and include a clear subject line to indicate what your question or concern is about.